

March 10, 2017

**"Patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success"
Napoleon Hill**

Hi Everyone,

As predictable as the Winter season transitioning to Spring is the University's formal announcement of Faculty academic promotions granted. This year, we have a large cohort of individuals promoted to Associate Professor who were formally notified in the last few days by McGill's Board of Governors. For their promotion to Associate Professor, this week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Reza Alizadehfar, Genevieve Bernard, Gaelle Chedeville, Laurie Plotnick and Pia Wintermark.**

Reza is an allergist-immunologist whose promotion recognizes his substantive contributions to education, both at the UGME level (lecturer & small group tutor in the Defence Segment of the Fundamentals of Medicine & Dentistry Pre-Clinical Block) and at the PGME level as Program Director of our highly successful allergy-immunology fellowship. He also scored points for clinical innovation in establishing an outreach clinic at the Lakeshore General Hospital and a transition clinic at the MGH site of the MUHC. Despite being a busy clinician, Reza has generated a number of publications through his participation in the clinical epidemiology portion of our food allergy program.

Genevieve, a pediatric neurologist and also a member of the Department of Human Genetics, has established herself as a national and indeed international leader and expert in leukodystrophy disorders. These complex and frequently devastating and progressive disorders affecting the white matter of the central nervous system have been her chosen research focus. In support of her activities as an independent investigator, Genevieve has been quite successful in securing external operating and salary support awards.

Gaelle is a member of our Rheumatology Division. She has combined educational and innovative efforts by leading the local introduction and adoption of point of care ultrasound (POCUS) into clinical practice that improves and accelerates diagnostic precision. She has also established an outreach clinic in Val D'Or which, for over 10 years, she has visited on a quarterly basis, thus fulfilling our RUIS mandate and importantly delivering sub-specialty care to where children and families live. She has also found the time to supervise the research projects of multiple trainees.

Laurie is a member of our ER staff who has excelled over the long term as a medical educator. She has developed and led the pivotal Transition to Clinical Practice of the Faculty's UGME program. She is now beginning to play a robust role as a leader in our Department as both the Associate Chair for Education and the lead of our Women in Leadership Task Force that will have an impact throughout the Faculty.

Finally, Pia is a neonatologist who after arriving here has established a thriving research program as an independent investigator focused on neonatal brain disorders. She has an extensive publication record, external operating grant support and a renewal of her external salary support award. She is making clinically relevant discoveries using imaging technologies that are directly applicable to asphyxiated term infants.

What I like about this year's class is their diversity (however defined) and their impact across the spectrum of academic activities. They have all gone beyond the expected to make significant contributions to our academic mission. They do themselves, and our entire Departmental community, proud.

Please join me in congratulating Reza, Genevieve, Gaelle, Laurie and Pia on their personal accomplishments.

Also, like the seasons, the cycle never really ends. We are gearing up for another round of promotions. I would suggest that everyone have a good critical look at their dossiers and if so inclined, then sit down with your Division Director for a frank discussion to see if this year is your time to go forward.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

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